Dropping the Liquid Fuel-Based Power Units

2165. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the new item caption "Government propose to drop some liquid fuel based power units" which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 8th November, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of power projects which are proposed to be dropped, out of about 109 proposals for which the MoUs have been signed; and

(c) the details of power projects shelved in Gujarat under this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Government of India's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government to drop some liquid fuel-based power units" appeared in 'The Economic Times', New Delhi dated Novemebr 8, 1996.

(b) No decision has been taken to shelve any of the projects based on liquid fules.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Pending Bills of Private Power Producers with the NTPC

2166. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of pending bills of the private power producers (independent power producers) with the National Thermal Power Corporation at present and the reasons for pendency of those bills; and

(b) whether the NTPC has urged Government to liquidate their dues from the State Electricity Boards and if so, the details of action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is neither supplying power to or bying power from any Independent Power Producers. Therefore, the question of any pending bills with NTPC does not arise.

(b) NTPC had approached the Government to recover its dues from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs). The Government has recently decided to effect greater recovery of dues of Central Power Sector Utilities from SEBs by further appropriation from its Plan Assistance to the respective States.

Laying down of arms by militant groups in Jammu and Kashmr

2167. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of militant groups operating in Jammu and Kashmir had laid down arms, to participate in the recent elections to the State's Legislative Assembly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating their names including those of their leaders, who surrendered arms, the militant outfits and their candidates who participated in elections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) It is a fact that a large number of persons, who had earlier been involved in militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, have given up this path and surrendered before the authorities. After the announcement